



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 157

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011

No. 167

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 3, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

LONE SURVIVOR OF THE DOUGHBOYS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we approach Veterans Day, the day we honor those who served and came back home, I want to talk about a very special veteran.

Frank Buckles, Jr., when he was 16 years of age—some say 15—during the beginning of the great World War I, wanted to join the military and go overseas. Remember they sang that song, those doughboys, when they went

overseas, George Cohan's song "Over There." And they wouldn't come back until it was over "over there."

The war started. He tried to join the Marines; they wouldn't take him because he was not 18. He tried different recruiters. He finally found an Army recruiter. He says he just told the recruiter a whopper—that he was 21. The recruiter took him, swore him in; and the fastest way he could get to Europe and get into action was to drive an ambulance. This is a photograph of Frank Buckles, Jr., when he served in the great World War I.

After that war was over with, he came back home, although 116,000 Americans did not come back home. Four million of them served in World War I. Frank Buckles, Jr., joined up as a seaman on a merchant ship. He was in the Philippines when World War II started, and he was captured by the Japanese and held in a prisoner of war camp for 3½ years. He was rescued, came back home to America, went to his farm in West Virginia, and he worked on the farm until he was 109 years old.

Frank Buckles, Jr., died this year at the age of 110. He was the last surviving doughboy from America that served in the great World War I. This is a photograph taken shortly before his death this year.

Frank Buckles, Jr., the loan survivor of World War I, a veteran of that great war, came back home. And his wish before he died, Mr. Speaker, was that we would have a permanent memorial for all who served in World War I on the Mall. You see, we have a memorial for Vietnam veterans, we have a memorial for the Korean veterans, the World War II veterans. There is a small memorial for the D.C. troops that served in World War I, but there's no memorial on the Mall for all of the doughboys like Frank Buckles, Jr., that served. And they have all died, Mr. Speaker. And it's our job, it's important for us to

have that memorial for them, to allow it to be constructed.

There is one memorial in Kansas City for the World War I doughboys, but we need one here also on the Mall. And it's important that we honor these great Americans because they are the veterans that we honor, that we appreciate, and that we should not forget, although all of them, including the loan survivor, Frank Buckles, Jr., has died. So I hope this House will join me and the gentleman from Missouri, EMANUEL CLEAVER, in passing legislation to authorize this memorial for those World War I doughboys.

Veterans Day is approaching. We are approaching the 100th anniversary of the great World War I. We should remember them, and we can do this by erecting and allowing a memorial to be constructed on the Mall. The veterans are the greatest that we have. We should remember every one of them, those that served and came home, those that served and did not come home, and those that are serving and representing us today.

And that's just the way it is.

THE WAR AGAINST SPORTS FANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. There is a drama being played out in the divorce and bankruptcy court with the McCourt family and the Los Angeles Dodgers. It's another chapter in the sad war against fans, the very people who make these multibillion-dollar enterprises possible in the first place.

It's an all-too-familiar refrain. No city is exempt from the threat of bankruptcy or being held hostage by an owner threatening to move if their demands are not met. No one, that is, except the fans of the team that is arguably the most successful franchise in

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H7259